



**Health Care Provider Guidance:  
administration of third (or “booster”) dose of mumps vaccine  
to University of Iowa students  
November 6, 2015**

**Background:**

Since July, more than 100 cases of mumps have occurred at the University of Iowa and cases have been increasing in recent weeks. Cases are primarily occurring in undergraduate students.

The Iowa Department of Public Health, the University of Iowa, and Johnson County Public Health are recommending **University of Iowa students who are less than 25 years of age be given a third (or “booster”) dose of mumps-containing vaccine (MMR vaccine). This recommendation DOES NOT apply to other students at this time.**

**Response:**

Multiple large vaccination clinics will be held on the University of Iowa campus over the next two weeks and third doses of MMR vaccine will be administered free-of-charge to all students meeting these criteria:

- 1) Less than 25 years-of-age.
- 2) Not seriously ill at the time of vaccination.
- 3) Have not had a recent laboratory-confirmed diagnosis of mumps.
- 4) Are not pregnant (nor plan on becoming pregnant in the next month).
- 5) Have no contraindications for MMR vaccination.

**Contraindications for MMR Vaccine:**

Students who meet the below criteria should **NOT** receive the MMR vaccine at this time:

- 1) Anyone who had a severe allergic reaction (e.g., generalized hives, swelling of the lips, tongue, or throat, difficulty breathing) following the first dose of MMR should not receive a subsequent dose. Anyone who had a severe allergic reaction to an MMR component (e.g., gelatin, neomycin) should not receive this vaccine.
  - This does not include reactions such as rash, localized hives, local redness or swelling, or fever; students with those types of previous reactions can receive the MMR vaccine.
- 2) Students who are immune-suppressed, including students receiving chemotherapy for cancer, students with congenital immunodeficiency, or students receiving steroid treatment consisting of at least 20 mg/day for two weeks (or had this level of treatment discontinued within the last two weeks) should not receive the MMR.

- This does not include topical steroids, aerosolized steroids, steroid treatment of less than 20 mg/day for two weeks, single injections of steroids, or alternated day dosing of steroids; students receiving these levels of steroids can receive the MMR vaccine.
- 3) Students who are pregnant or may become pregnant within one month.
  - 4) Students who are currently ill with major or serious illness.
    - This does not include low grade fevers, upper respiratory illness such as colds, or current antibiotic use; students with minor illnesses such as these can receive the MMR vaccine.
  - 5) History of thrombocytopenia or thrombocytopenic purpura.

Students who meet the below criteria **MAY** not be able to receive the MMR vaccine at this time, unless further assessment determines the interval from previous vaccine or antibody-containing blood product was sufficient:

- 6) Students with recent receipt of a live virus vaccine should defer vaccination until 28 days after receipt of the live virus vaccine. (Live virus vaccines include varicella or chickenpox vaccine, yellow fever vaccine, MMR, or live flu vaccines such as “FluMist”).
- 7) Students who have recent receipt (within the previous 11 months) of antibody-containing blood product.
  - Specific interval needed between receipt of these products and MMR vaccine depends upon type of product.

#### **Guidance for Health Care Providers:**

Many students may be traveling soon because of the holidays. Any University of Iowa students meeting the above criteria and presenting at non-UI clinics for third dose MMR should be vaccinated (costs to be covered by student’s insurance).